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March 3, 1998 LB 1228

Thank you.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Thank you, Senator Bohlke. Senator Chambers, to the Stuhr amendment.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I am in a mean mood now, but I am not going to be mean to Senator Stuhr. Senator Stuhr, I would like to ask you a question or two.

SENATOR STUHR: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: The way your amendment is drafted, 36 percent of the teachers could have these 30 graduate-level hours and not one would have to have an advanced degree, isn't that true?

SENATOR STUHR: Yes, that's true, the way it reads.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And they could have gotten these 30 hours, 40 years ago, if...well, 20 years ago, because they probably wouldn't still be teaching. They could have gotten these 30 hours, 20 years ago, isn't that true?

SENATOR STUHR: Well, yes, it's true. I doubt very much, though, that they would have gotten them 30 years ago, and the fact that many of the school require a continual update of hours every so many years, two or three years, I am not sure.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So, if you had a small school district, and they had somebody who had gotten these 30 hours, 10 years ago, they would fire that person, is that what you're telling me?

SENATOR STUHR: No, I'm saying that most of them do have rules that in...that insist that they do go back within a four or five year period. So it would be much more recent than 10, or 20, or 30 years.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Why do they make them go back? You mean to keep a job at these schools, the person who is teaching has to work until he or she gets an advanced degree?

SENATOR STUHR: Most of them have stipulations that...that,